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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 5 Jan 51

SUBJECT DDR Attempts to Obtain Pyrite; Procurement
of Tungsten and Molybdenum

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1. The DDR is continuing to have difficulties in procuring enough pyrites for the last quarter of 1950 and for the year 1951. For this reason, the DDR has cut sulphuric acid production by 30 percent until the supply of pyrites is assured. The DDR is having transportation difficulties with its contract for 20,000 tons of pyrites and it is felt that some form of foreign interference is to blame.

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2. An office of the DDR has been negotiating with one Dipl. Ing. Doerr, Director of the Phrix-Werke A.G., 36 Esplanade, Hamburg, in order to take over 20,000 tons of pyrites which are supposedly stored there.

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3.

4. The DDR is reported to be procuring enough tungsten and molybdenum from China via Siberia. In exchange the DDR is supplying medical products, especially large quantities of penicillin.
5. The DDR is suffering from a shortage of soda as deliveries from the West have ceased. The government authorities are therefore rebuilding the plant at Bernburg with all possible speed.

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